

Dear FCC,

I want to express my feelings concerning the proposed Amateur Radio Licensing proposals with regards to the required morse code testing for privileges of frequencies below 30 mhz.

To put in bluntly,

required morse code testing is irrelevant in the wake of the 21st century. Here we are knocking on the door of the year 2006 and we are still required to pass a morse code examination that is, in itself, a relic of 19th century technology.

I'm not saying

that morse code should be banned from the amateur bands. I only feel that it should be treated as "just another mode", such as FM, SSR, SSTV, etc. I would propose the mode of CW as it is currently regulated, that only licensed amateur radio operators be allowed to use morse code as a means of communication. This should be done once they have demonstrated the ability to send and receive morse code in a manner that effectively shows their expertise in the art of sending and receiving morse code.

Let's give this form of discrimination a pleasant send off.

Finally one parting comment:

If the ability to send and receive morse code is that important, then why isn't there a mandatory requalification exam required every two years? I'm quite sure there would be an uproar if that was implemented on licensed amateurs who presently have privileges below 30 mhz!

Sincerely yours

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